ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENT

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West Va. Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR 1864,

TO THE

GOVERNOR

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA.



WHEELING:

JOHN F. M'DERMOT, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1865.

WX 2 AW4 W5H87 1864-1876178

DIRECTORS AND SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

WEST VA. HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE

FOR THE YEAR 1864.

WESTON, WEST VA., Dec. 31, 1864.

To His Excellency,

A. I. BOREMAN,

Governor of West Va.

Sir:-I have the honor herewith to transmit to you the Annual Report of the Board of Directors, and other officers of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane for the year 1864.

I am most respectfully yours, &c.

R. P. CAMDEN,

Pres't.

OFFICERS.

Directors—R. F. Camden, President, J. C. McGrew, E. A. Hildreth, M. D., S. G. Shaw, M. D., E. B. Hall, P. M. Hale, D. D. T. Farnsworth.

Treasurer and Secretary.—G. A. Jackson, Esq. Superintendent.—R. Hills, M. D. Matron.—Mrs. E. G. Hills.

DIRECTORS REPORT.

To His Excellency,

A. I. BOREMAN,

Governor of West Virginia:

Sir:—The Directors of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane.

at Weston, hereby make their report for the year 1864.

Having severally become legally qualified under your commission as directors, a majority of the members of the Board met at Weston, West Va., on the first day of January, 1864, and organized by the selection of Richard P. Camden, of Lewis County, as President, Thomas L. Moore, of Harrison County, Secretary pro tem. and George A. Jackson, of Weston, Treasurer, the latter giving bond as required by law.

The Board proceeded to divide themselves into two classes for term of service, as required by law, resulting in assigning R. P. Camden, of Lewis County, D. D. T. Farnsworth, of Upshur County, and Thomas L. Moore, of Harrison County, as the first class for service for one year, and E. A. Hildreth, of Ohio County, James C. McGrew, of Preston County, Spicer Patrick, of Kanawha County, and P. M. Hale, of Lewis County, as the second class for service for two years. Through the agency of Dr. E. A. Hildreth an official seal has

been devised and procured to the entire satisfaction of the Board. At the first meeting a committee was appointed to ascertain by correspondence and otherwise who could be obtained as a suitable

Superintendent who shall be a physician for the institution.

Measures were immediately adopted to secure the property of the institution and to protect it from loss; an inventory was made of the personal or loose property by a competent person, which inventory is on file and amounts to eleven thousand one hundred and eighty-two 80-100 dollars.

As soon as practicable on account of season and other circumstances, arrangements were made for finishing the south one story wing for occupation, difficulties were encountered in various ways; that made delays unavoidable, and increased the expenditures beyond the earlier estimates, one of which was the impossibility of procuring sufficient workmen without importing a portion of them from other points, and the increased wages demanded by all classes of mechanics. Another cause of delay and increased expenditure was the necessity of reconstructing the drainage of the basement of the building. This was a very heavy item, and one of absolute necessity. Still another cause of delay was the failure of the party who had the contract for putting up the heating apparatus, to do the work in the desired time. The contract for this purpose with a very competent person made by the former Board, was approved and ratified by ourselves, but his delays from time to time during the season, in completing this work, (that we would hope were unavoidable,) were very vexatious and troublesome.

The amount of work to be done was also very great. The entire floors were to be laid, considerable plastering, the interior wood work finished, the completion of doors, fitting and hanging; and the

entire painting of the whole house.

These were pushed forward however with all practicable speed, and this portion of the building was finally brought to a condition to receive patients in the latter part of October. The character of the work, the finish of the floors, the plastering and painting has been done in a style and manner that is very satisfactory and challenges the admiration of all who inspect them.

The committee appointed at an early period on the subject of securing a Superintendent who should be a physician, reported in the month of August and the action of the Board finally resulted in the appointment of Dr. Hills, of the Central Ohio Lunatic Asylum as Superintendent and Mrs. Hills as matron. They have had much experience in the care and treatment of the insane, are as we believe eminently qualified in every respect for the position. Indeed we think the institution peculiarly fortunate in securing their valuable services.

The institution was opened on the 22d day of October with nine patients brought from Ohio, where they had been in temporary care, awaiting the completion of this wing of the Hospital. The term of service of Dr. Hills not commencing until November, the appointment of Dr. N. B. Barnes as an assistant had been made to make necessary preparations and perform any professional duty required in the meantime.

Since the opening, the number of patients admitted has been increased to twenty-one, and several other applications for admission have been received. The particulars in regard to patients admitted are given in the accompanying report of the Superintendent, to which reference is hereby made. There is no doubt that the wing completed will soon be filled to its utmost capacity and others knocking in vain for admission to its privileges and advantages.

The capacity as originally contemplated in the plan of the south wing is for thirty-six patients, but by crowding them, in a moderate degree to meet the emergency about forty-five can be made comfor-

table.

By the laying under the surface of the ground a temporary covered wooden gutter for a portion of the required distance and a one-inch galvanized iron tube for the remainder, an abundant supply of water is constantly flowing into an iron tank in the attic of a back building from the spring on the hill side in the rear of the Hospital, the iron tubing having a head of some ten or twelve feet above the level of the tank. This water proves to be of a quality suitable for steam and all other purposes, making no inclustations upon the inside of the boilers and from present indications the supply thus obtained will be ample for all future purposes of the institution. The distance it is thus brought is about twelve hundred feet.

Experience thus far proves the good working of the heating apparatus in most respects. The capacity and powers of the boiler however, is thought by the Superintendent to be unequal to the

full demands that will be made upon it with a full household. The apparatus has not yet been extended to the gymnasium, as it could be dispensed with for the time being. The ventilating system works admirably—that of the water closets being perfect. That of the rooms and halls is less satisfactory, being affected by varying conditions of the atmosphere as must always be the case without some mode of forced ventilation.

From many causes some of which have been alluded to, the board has been much embarrassed in the endeavor to open the institution during the course of the year, with the very limited appropriation made for the purpose. It could not have been done indeed in any creditable manner, without the aid given by your excellency.

The disbursements made subsequent to the 8th day of October were made through the agency of the Superintendent and will appear in detail hereafter. The large item therein of \$2,159 42 was in payment of two bills of a firm in Baltimore for blankets, sheeting, &c. This large expenditure was made necessary in the following manner. In a raid made by the Confederates into Weston in September the institution was robbed of its supply of these articles then on hand. A new purchase was very promptly made to supply the loss, but these were destroyed in their transit from Baltimore in a raid made by the Confederates upon the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The second purchase (or third in all) became a matter of necessity, thus making an unexpected outlay of that whole amount. Before this necessity became fully known the arrangement that had been made for the transfer of the patients from the State of Ohio, and the early opening of the institution, made it necessary to supply the deficiency in some other manner. In this emergency a call was made upon the citizens of Weston and vicinity to supply, temporarily, such articles of blankets and other bedclothing as were immediately needed. This call was promptly and generously responded to, for which this public acknowledgment is justly due.

EXPENDITURES.

The financial condition for the past year is shown in the following statement, reference being also made to the reports of the Treasurer and Superintendent:—

Balance in the hands of the Treasurer on of January, 1864,	\$1,904 58 6,000 00 1,500 00 137 40		
Total,		77	\$9,541 98
Disbursements to Oct. 8, 1864, Treasurer's several Commissions, By draft of Executive Committee, to Dr. R.Hill's Supt., for disbursement,	\$8,876 62 602	40	
Total,	\$9,541	98	

The details of the disbursements of the above named	\$8,876 93,	,
are as follows:— For Carpenter work,	\$1,193 97	7
"Common Labor,	973 32	
" Painting,	722 15	
" Painting materials	396 63	
"Work on heating apparatus, &c., "Materials for "Brick laying,	858 00	3
" Materials for	1,605 59	
"Brick laying,	148 50	
Engineering, sawing, planing, &c.,	248 42	
" Plastering, "Hardware, locks, nails, Screws, &c.,	335 98 512 70	
"Window-guards,	321 85	
" Castings,	118 25	
"Glass,	27 00	
" Lime. Cement and plaster,	97 20)
"Freight, express, carriage, &c.,	722 06	3
"Stationery, stamps, telegraphing and exchange,	35 75	
"Furniture,	180 00	
" Stove, (cooking)	36 00	
"Groceries and carbon oil,	222 14 53 50	
" Blacksmithing, "Feathers, "Feat	40 80	
"A diamond,	7 00	
" Keeping oxen in 1863,	20 00	
_		_
Lotal,	100,010	Ś
Total, The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work, " Common labor, " Engineering, " Painting, " Coal-digging,	\$294 50 \$294 50 189 02 22 00 13 13	e 2 3
The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work,————————————————————————————————————	f \$602 65, pose, have \$294 50, 189 02, 22 00, 13 13, 84 00	2 2 3 3
The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work,————————————————————————————————————	\$294 50 \$294 50 \$294 50 \$290 02 \$22 00 \$3 13 \$4 00 \$602 65), e 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
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The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work,————————————————————————————————————	\$294 50 \$294 50 \$294 50 \$294 50 \$29 00 \$3 13 \$4 00 \$602 65 out of the \$3,000 00	2030 - 50 e 0
The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work,————————————————————————————————————	5 \$602 65, pose, have \$294 50, \$294 50, \$294 50, \$294 50, \$29	
The details of disbursements of the above named sum of placed in the hand of the Superintendent for that purbeen, by him, reported to us, and are as follows:— For Carpenter-work,————————————————————————————————————	5 \$602 65, pose, have \$294 50, \$294 50, \$294 50, \$29 00, \$3,000 00	

Bread,	2 80
Potatoes,	
Lard,	. 45
Apple-butter,	
Apples,	. 3 25
Vinegar,	3 50
Beans,	3 50
Sage and yeast,	3 15
One soldiers blanket,	1 00
Barrels,	. 6 00
Locks and screws,	. 1 30
Lamp chimneys and wicks,	. 1 30
Exchange,	13 23
Postage and revenue stamps,	3 20
Telegraphing,	3 33
Total, \$11 15	\$3,011 12
Excess of disbursements over receipts,\$11 15	2
LIABILITIES.	
The following is a detailed statement of all present	known in-
debtedness up to this date, and for the liqudation of which	ch on on-
propriation is urgently requested. It will be seen to be a	moinly on
subsistence, account for furniture, the salaries and wages	af these
having the care of nationts and otherwise conducting the	o ingtitu
having the care of patients, and otherwise conducting the	ie ilistitu-
tion, and are, of course, of the most necessitous nature.	¢ 11 10
For excess of disbursement,	· p 11 12
2001,	122 48
4400,	43 32
1 Out 1 y,	. 8 38
nggs and mink,	5 51
1741061,	. 21 70
E 10(11,	42 00
Meal,	2 50
1 0000000000000000000000000000000000000	
Oabbage,	
Ontons,	. 75
## ppres,====================================	2 00
vinegal,	1 00
order, with parier,	7 00
Duap,	. 10 20
Groceries,	57 45
"Dry goods,	136 39
"Furniture,"	101 25
D10 v e,	29 80
"Tin and sheet-iron ware,	
"Barrels and tubs,	19 00
"Stone-ware and crockery,	21 00
"Hard-ware,	77 24
"Blacksmithing, "Lamps and oil, "Lamps and oil,"	. 11 00
"Machine oil,	5 30
"Corn,	3 50
" Hay,	. 15 00

For Shoes	3 50
" Labor,	7 80
" Teaming,	27 88
" Freight and expressing,	110 08
"Telegraphing,	5 64
"Postage,	1 14
"Ink	50
"Iron tubing,	278 18
"Locks,	190 76
" Shingles,	11 42
C. Dainte and homeless	
" Paints and brushes,	10 00
"Glass,	6 83
" Cement,	20 00
"Transportation of an employee,	16 30
"Sundries,	4 60
"Wages of employees,	464 09
" Salary to Ass't Sup't to 1st, Nov. 1864,	100 00
" Advertising, bills not all in, estimated at about,	40 00
" For expenses of the Board, accounts not all presented,	
(about)	325 00
(47040)	
m_+_1	0.070.05

ESTIMATES FOR 1865.

The estimates made by the Superintendent, for the current expenses of the ensuing year and other purposess are fully approved by the Board, and they would respectfully urge the most prompt action by the Legislature on the subject of our liabilities and im-

mediate current expenses.

The further prosecution of the work is deemed by us necessary, as well as expedient, not only to supply the wants of the State, but also to save the property from large losses by waste and decay. The large amount of loose materials are diminishing by decay and depredations, and the joists, and door and window frames of that portion of the Hospital partly built, are so exposed, that entire destruction in a short time is inevitable. Even one year more of delay. in getting it enclosed, we fear, will ruin a portion of the work. In view of the present increased cost of materials and labor, we consider it expedient to suggest the appropriation of sixty-five thousand dollars for construction purposes.

RECAPITULATION OF APPROPRIATIONS SUGGESTED. For paying present liabilities, \$2,872 25 " Current expenses of 1865,----- 14,000 00 Construction purposes, _____ 65,000 00

Having endeavored to do our duty in the important trust confided to our care, we commend the institution to the kind consideration of your Excellency and the Legislature.

R. P. CAMDEN, P. M. HALE, D. D. T. FARNSWORTH, J. C. McGrew,

Directors.

\$2,872 25

E. A. HILDRETH,

S. G. SHAW, E. B. HALL.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Statement of G. A. Jackson, Treasurer of the West Virginia Bospital for the Insane, for the year ending 31st Dec., 1864.

	Jan. 1 Cash on hand Dec. 31st, 1863	Balance Bro't down, Cash Rec'd from State Treas. out offund for Keeping Lunatics, &c., drawn by order	Board,	Balance, E. & O. E.,Respectfully Submitted by	G. A. JACKSON, I'reas.
1864.	8,868 93 85 50 70 47 75 1 00 60 8,876 93 44 88		3,620 67	t, 602 65	605 67
	Checks paid by order of the Board, 8,868 93	Dcc. 8 Cash paid on Exceutive Committees Draft to Dr. Hill's Superintendent. Cash, Treas. Cout. 2 pr et on \$3,000. Balance,		Dec. 31 Cash paid on Executive Committees Draft to Dr. Hill's Superintendent, Treas. Com. on \$605 67 at \(\frac{1}{2} \) pr ct	
1864.	sc. 28	တ		6.01	

H STATEMEN TABULAR

	Residence.	Monon'lia Co. Harrison " Upshur " Ohio " Ohio " Ohio " Ohio " Kanawha " Ohio " Kanawha " Ohio " Kanawha " Ohio " Harrison " Matichie " Ohio " Gilmer " Ohio " Kitchie "
	Resi	Monou'li, Harrison Upshur Ohio Ohio Ohio Ohio Shooke Lewis Marshall Marion Harrison Ritchie Ohio Gilmer Ohio Gilmer Ohio Gilmer Ohio Gilmer Ohio Ohio Masson Masson Ohio
STATEMENT.	Nativity.	Virginia f. f. f. f. f. f. f. f. f. f
	Occupation.	Housekeeper Virginia
E	Attack. Suicidal. Homicidal. Hereditary.	
H	Age at 1st	
TABULAR STA	Form of Insanity.	Dementia do d
	Supposed Cause.	Grief, Hereditary, Ill Health, Domestic Trouble. Ill Health, Dysmenorrhoa, "The War", Ill Hcalth, Sun stroke & trouble Hereditary Affliction, "Masturbation.", "Trouble," Dissipated Husband "Onanism." Gen. paval
Ь	Duration of	22 yrs. 10 ('') 11 ('') 10 ('') 11 ('') 12 yrs. 22 mos. 6 yrs. 6 yrs.
A	Number of Admissions.	
T	Number of Attacks.	01-01-1-1-1-000-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1
	Social Condition.	0,5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5
	Age.	•
	Sex.	Female. "" Male. "" Female. "" Male. "" Formale. "" Male.
	Pate of	1864. Oct. 22 ''' ''' ''' '''' ''' ''' ''' '''
[- 15	Number	1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Directors of the

West Virginia Hospital for the Insane:

SIRS:—Having accepted your appointment to open and superintend this Institution, I now report progress to the present period.

In compliance with the desire of your Board for the earliest possible opening, and instructions from his Excellency, Governor Boreman, received on the 19th day of October last, I left Columbus, Ohio, on the 20th with Mrs. Hills, who had received your appointment as Matron, and a corps of assistants, and proceeding to Longview Asylum, Hamilton County, Ohio, received the nine female patients that were there, and arrived with them here on the 22D DAY OF OCTOBER, 1864. This, therefore, is the date of the opening of this Hospital.

The foregoing tabular statement embodies the more important facts in relation to all the cases admitted to the present date.

The introduction of other tables, or any comments upon that

given, will be at this time needless.

In addition to the patients already admitted, applications have been received for the admission of eight or ten more, that will be soon added to the number. From the rapidity of these applications, there can be no question that the wing now opened will be soon filled to its utmost capacity. Having been constructed for only thirty-six patients, the greatest reasonable pressure will not

make the capacity more than for about forty-five.

It cannot be expected that in this report, after a service of only two months, and the Institution being just opened, I could have much material for the purpose. About all that is to be said must be prospective, and mainly on that unpleasant theme, our wants. If it were worth while, I could dwell on the gratifying topic of a new State, (itself only just fledged,) while under the pressure of difficulties inseparable from the establishment of its own existence, starting out so promptly in the benevolent enterprise of providing for its suffering people. Perhaps nothing marks the progress in civilization so much as enlarging and widening the means of relieving the distresses of humanity, and there is no one direction in which these distresses and misfortunes are so conspicuous as in the loss of our reason—the obscuring of our intellect,—the darkening of the very soul. What is the most abject poverty in comparison?

"Who steals my purse, steals trash."

What is blindness, or what is deafness, but the loss of a single

one of the many senses with which we are endowed for our comfort and enjoyment? "Madness" combines all the misfortunes with which humanity can possibly be burdened. In that there is blindness to all the lights of superior intelligence,—deafness to all appeals of reason, and poverty of mind is the sum of all deprivation.

In propertion as is the magnitude of this affliction, compared with others, so is the importance of the charity for its relief. No other one has equal weight,—none should take precedence,—and the State of West Virginia has done wisely, nobly, in thus promptly

providing for this class.

For another reason is this charity paramount to all others. Blindness is incurable, and long years of special education will not restore to vision one scintillation of light, or impart to its proper sense the charms of beauty. The deaf mute can never be made to hear the melodies of this world, or give voice to thought,—but, thank God, insanity is carable, and the darkened mind may be made to see "the silver lining of the cloud," and receive the full light of former in-

telligence.

From one-third to three-fourths of all the insane placed in properly appointed Asylums, are restored to their reason, and sent home to resume their duties in their several spheres. In proportion as they are treated early, are they likely to be restored, so that with early application of enlightened means, from sixty to eightly per cent. are restored. It is upon this point, more perhaps than any other on this subject, that public impressions are wrong, and that enlightenment is needed. Insanity is in reality as curable as most other diseases, as curable, for instance, as typhoid fever, pneumonia, dysentery, scarlet fever, &c., and much more curable than dyspepsia, consumption, small pox, etc. The often quoted line,

"Who can minister to a mind diseased,"

was written before the day of rational, enlightened treatment of the insane. If it had not been, it would never have been penned, as it implies what is not true. Mental disorders are the manifestations of physical derangements, and generally such as are amenable to treatment. In proportion to the effort that is made, and also the extent and variety of the means provided for the judicious care of the insane, as well as their early application, are the number of recoveries, and hence, what may on slight consideration be thought

expensive arrangements, are truly the cheapest.

An uncured case is a dead weight upon the public, whether in or out of an asylum, and continues so to the end of life. A cured case is ordinarily restored in a few months, and is a burthen for only that short period. One case not restored (perhaps for the want of proper means at the proper time,) may, therefore, cost more than a dozen recovered cases. Hence the real economy of having the most perfect, or a first-class hospital for the insane, provided with the best appointments for the comfort, convenience, contentment and happiness of the patients; means of exercise, of amusement, occupation and diversion of mind. The expenditure of one dollar in this direction, if instrumental in curing a case of insanity, will save the expenditure of ten or twenty towards maintaining that case through life, should it become incurable, from the absence of those means.

Another common error with the public as to asylums is that they are receptacles for the insane, and subjected to neglect, abuse and wickedness of treatment, instead of which the very opposite is the truth. They are hospitals, where skill and experience are sought, and every art and appliance directed to the one object sought above all others, the recovery of the patient, and where they are treated with more kindness, more consideration and tender solicitude, than they would be, or have been by their nearest friends or relatives. It is no uncommon experence for a home in established asylums to be sought by recovered patients to protect them from ill-treatment and abuse within their own home circle, and which they are conscious will endanger the equilibrium of their minds.

The deductions I would desire to have drawn from all I have

written, may be expressed in few words:

1st. Extend as rapidily as required by the wants of the State, the asylum capacity.

2d. Overcome the prejudice of the people, encourage and resort

to hospital treatment in the earliest stages of the malady.

3d. Let liberal appropriations be made that every art and means conducive to the great end of the patients recovery, may be obtained.

We have here the beginning of a most substantial and magnificent Hospital for the Insane, unsurpassed, so far as constructed, by any other one, anywhere, and should it be completed in like manner, it, would be one of which not only the State, but the nation might be proud. By its recent opening, vitality has been imparted to an institution which has been for many years in embryo, and it is hoped the authorities of the State will give it their fostering care, and freely give the *pabulum* necessary for sustenance, and for farther vigorous growth.

With much care we have estimated that an appropriation of \$14,000 will be needed by the institution for the current expenses of the next year. This entire sum may not be consumed, but it would not be prudent to appropriate less. It must be borne in mind that in opening such an institution, many more than ordinary expenses are required, especially do we need more furniture,

bureaus, wardtobes, stands, tables, chairs, &c.

Many minor improvements are also essential, the basement should be paved, the basement windows furnished with iron guards,—the heating arrangements extended to the gymnasium—the boiler must be re-set, a new fire front obtained, and it is probable also that the saw-mill boiler or some other, must be made available before another winter.

A bake-oven must be built,—the cistern finished, and furnished

with pump,—and laundry arrangements perfected.

Portions of the grounds must be enclosed, the yards put in order with walks, drives, grass plots, beds, plants and shrubbery.

A vegetable garden must be enclosed and prepared by drainage,

with top-dressings, and hot-beds.

The farm must have attention,—fences erected and repaired, pasturage got into good condition, tillable grounds put into order—

farm implements procured, and stock provided, as work-horses, milking cows, pigs, poultry, &c.

But I fancy I hear,

"Hold, enough."

Leaving to your Board the matter of showing the necessity of making progress in the erection of the main building, and estimating the appropriation required, I will only add an expression of hope that our new institution may receive the cordial good-will of the people, and "material aid" from the State authorities, and the prayer that it may receive the Blessing of the Supreme Head of all Benevolence.

Most respectfully submitted,

R. HILLS.

West Va. Hosp. for the Insane, Weston, Dec. 31, 1864.